

Holden announces support for life sciences projects in Kansas City

Governor Bob Holden announced the release of \$1.7 million in planning money for a new Health Sciences Building at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and pledged support for state assistance to develop a Kansas City Center for Technology.

Holden, speaking at a meeting with participants in the Kansas City Life Sciences Partnership on September 18, said both projects are essential to continuing the progress that has occurred in Kansas City in tapping the vast potential of the life sciences.

"To reach our full potential in the life sciences, we must have an emphasis on both research and application," said Holden. "The project at UMKC will increase our research capabilities and help make our university system a major player in the life sciences. The new technology center would serve as an innovation center to turn our research into jobs and economic prosperity. It will provide badly needed wet lab space and a business environment to link the results of our world-class research to marketable products."

Holden has recommended that the Missouri

Development Finance Board and the Department of Economic Development work with partners in Kansas City to identify appropriate state resources to help this project.

The \$1.7 million from the state's capital improvements budget will allow an architect to be hired so the \$30 million project can move forward at UMKC. Several large private donations have already been received for the building.

Holden praised the strong partnership of business, civic and academic leaders in Kansas City who recognize the "tremendous promise the life sciences hold for the future of our state."

Missouri already has two of the world's top research institutions in life sciences: the Stowers Institute for Medical Research in Kansas City and the Danforth Plant and Life Sciences Center in St. Louis.

The proposed Center for Technology in Kansas City would complement the work being done at the Nidus Center and the Center for Emerging Technologies that are thriving in St. Louis. In addition, a new life sciences building is under construction at the University of Missouri-Columbia.



Malaysian trade, industry delegation meets in St. Louis



Governor Bob Holden welcomed Rafidah Aziz, Minister of International Trade and Industry of Malaysia, and a delegation of senior Malaysian governmental officials and business leaders to St. Louis on October 21.

The Chicago office of the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority hosted a luncheon program on "Business Opportunities in Malaysia" at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in St. Louis. More than 100 area businesses seeking international business opportunities in Southeast Asia took advantage of the opportunity to meet one-on-one with business leaders from Malaysia.

The objective of the conference was to highlight business opportunities in Malaysia for companies in the St. Louis region, to enhance business relations between Malaysia and Missouri, and to develop reciprocal trade opportunities that will help both economies grow in the future.

Minister Rafidah highlighted market opportunities in the newly created ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA), a market with a population of more than 550 million people and where Malaysia is at the heart of this high growth region.

In her efforts to attract investment to Malaysia, she explained that the Malaysian government has relaxed foreign investment restrictions to stimulate foreign investment growth. She credited the growth of her country's economy to "excellent decisions" made by the Malaysian government to not devalue its currency during the Asian crisis. Now the country is experiencing growth in the Information Technology and Biotechnology industries, as well as an incredible surge in manufacturing, which now accounts for 33 percent of Malaysia's gross domestic product (GDP).

The event was organized in cooperation with a number of organizations within the St. Louis region involved in international business development. These organizations included the St. Louis Regional Chamber and Growth Association (RCGA), St. Louis University, The Boeing Company, US-ASEAN Business Council, World Trade Center, U.S. Department of Commerce, Missouri Department of Economic Development, Illinois Trade Office (SIU) and Global Vision Strategies LLC.

Recently, several Asian countries have been actively pursuing investment and trade opportunities. This is the second of three trade missions that are visiting the area. Peter Woo, chairman of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, and a delegation from Hong Kong also visited St. Louis in October. In addition, a South Korean mission will visit St. Louis in November.

The Missouri Department of Economic Development's Office of International Marketing actively works as a liaison between Missouri and international companies and organizations to increase global economic opportunities. The office provides a wide variety of assistance to Missouri businesses in the areas of international sales consulting, market research, marketing strategies, foreign relations and protocol and trade lead generation.



Sen. Steve Stoll, D-Festus (left) and Gov. Holden visit with a client at the Missouri Career Center in Arnold.

Governor Holden visits Missouri Career Center

In remarks at the National Association of State Workforce Agencies Conference, which was held in Kansas City in September, Governor Bob Holden encouraged participants to spend time getting to know their customers again to strengthen and improve our workforce development system. Heeding his own challenge, Holden toured a Missouri Career Center in October to gain input from job-seekers and career counselors as to how the state can better assist them in their efforts.

Holden met with staff members at the Missouri Career Center in Arnold and talked with job-seekers who were there obtaining services. Holden pledged to continue his efforts to strengthen Missouri's workforce development system, thanked the staff for their efforts and stressed the need to remain focused on helping Missourians attain the skills they need to find a good job.

Missouri Career Center offices provide career counseling services, free of charge. They also provide assistance to employers, providing job screening services and labor market information.

There are 40 Missouri Career Center offices located strategically throughout the state. Services provided through the Career Centers include assistance with job search and resume writing, job training opportunities, employment searching through the GreatHires.org Web site, and matches with potential employers. Job seekers are also able to use computers with Internet access, fax machines and telephones that are available at the Career Centers. Employers can find qualified workers, learn about trends in the labor market and obtain unemployment insurance benefit information.

CALENDAR

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|----------------|---|
| November 13-15 | 10th Annual Excellence in Missouri Conference
- Jefferson City |
| January 1 | New Year's Day
(state offices closed) |
| January 8 | 92nd Legislative Session Opens |
| January 20 | Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday
(state offices closed) |
| February 5 | 2003 Missouri Arts Awards
- Jefferson City |
| April 9-10 | 2003 Governor's Conference for Women
- Lake Ozark |

Several Missouri communities honored at annual MCB conference

Governor Bob Holden awarded the 2002 Missouri Community Betterment (MCB) Grand Prize Award to the city of East Prairie during the 39th Annual MCB Conference awards banquet. Judges selected East Prairie for its impressive sense of community, a well-defined strategic plan for betterment, tremendous use of resources to assist the community's "at-risk" citizens, unified volunteer efforts and the citizens' overall investment back into their community.

Young adults from Clinton received the Glenn Smith Award, which is given annually to the most outstanding youth group for participation in community betterment activities.

The following individuals received adult leadership awards: Lynda Jenkins of Annapolis; Bertha Mae Taylor of Clarksville; Carol Ann Welsh Wright of Clinton; Benjamin F. Schneider of Eldon; David Clithero of Kirksville; Marilyn J. Harris of Lamar; Patricia (Pat) Scott of Lexington; Walt Gilbert of Louisiana; Teri Harr of Maryville; and Grace Marie Newcom of Perryville.

Youth leadership awards were presented to Kyle Sullivan of Albany; Kendra Jackson of Annapolis; Andrew Scott of Canton; Daniel Hannes of Clinton; Duston Hampton of Dexter; Kristin Twenter of Harrisburg; Kathleen Redmon of Kirksville; Mike Barnett of Maryville; Sky Vanderburg of Moberly; and William Thompson of Mountain View.

In addition, the cities Mountain View and Shelbina were awarded Star City status and Perryville and Hannibal received All Missouri Certified City status for successfully participating in the Missouri Community Assessment Program.

Hundreds of people from Missouri communities and neighborhoods attended the MCB Conference in Columbia to obtain new ideas, share information about community betterment efforts and to celebrate the achievements of their year-long efforts. This year's theme was "Investing in Missouri's Communities & Neighborhoods."

The annual awards banquet is an integral part of the MCB program, which is administered by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED). Through this event, Missouri communities and their leaders are recognized for their outstanding community development efforts. More than 75 communities from throughout the state entered this year's competition.



Governor Bob Holden and Jim Hulse, Ameren UE executive and MCB Board President (far right), pose with members of East Prairie's community betterment organization — winners of the grand prize at the annual MCB Awards Banquet.

THE STATE OF EMPLOYMENT

There was no significant change in Missouri's labor market conditions in September, according to the Missouri Department of Economic Development. The state's unemployment rate decreased two-tenths of a point to 4.6 percent in September, remaining well below the nation's current rate of 5.4 percent.

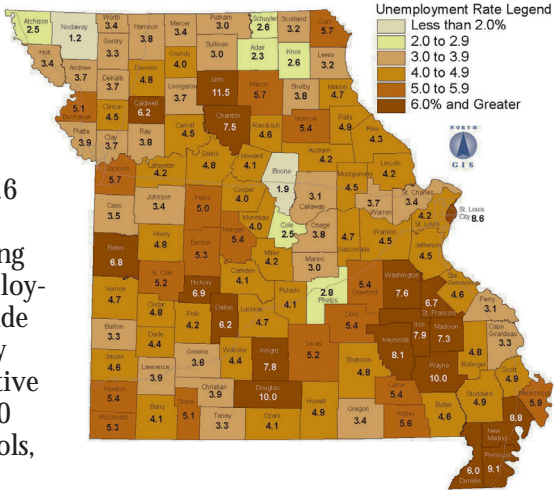
On a seasonally adjusted basis, the state's unemployment rate edged up slightly by a tenth of a percentage point to 4.8 percent, the same as it was one year ago.

Non-farm payrolls grew by 16,200 jobs in September, not seasonally adjusted. An employment increase in September is typical as school and college employment, school bus services and eating and drinking places employment returns to normal following summer vacation. This September, however, the unadjusted estimate of private educational services increased by only 2,200. Since a much larger increase is the norm for September, the seasonally adjusted estimate for this industry sector fell by 9,000 jobs, to 49,000.

With employment not showing the usual degree of seasonal increase in September, the seasonally adjusted estimate of payroll employment fell by 13,500 to 2,673,700. In addition to decreases in educational services, other industries were down as well. Construction employment dropped by 6,500, seasonally adjusted, as warm, dry weather this summer allowed projects to be completed early. Manufacturing employment was also down, by 3,700 jobs to 358,700, as a result of small losses throughout many sectors.

Business services, another industry that has been badly affected by the recession, lost another 2,100 jobs in September, with employment falling to 144,700. Employment in this industry had stabilized earlier in the year when the economy was showing some signs of life. Since May, it has been falling again, losing 8,200 jobs in four months.

With the estimated drop in employment in September, the over-the-year employment decrease has widened to 54,800, or 2.0 percent. With manufacturing losses generally slower this year than last, employment in that sector has fallen by 13,500 or 3.6 percent. Electrical equipment, lumber and wood products, and chemicals have been the manufacturing industries with the largest losses. Construction employment is off by 10,700 or 7.4 percent. Wholesale trade employment has fallen by 9,200, business services by 7,700, and state government by 5,400. On the positive side, health services employment has grown by 2,200 jobs, while local government, including public schools, is up by 2,100.



Holden announces \$15 million in community improvement assistance

In September, Gov. Bob Holden announced that more than 100 community-based organizations throughout the state will receive \$15 million in state tax credits to help raise funds for projects that strengthen and revitalize Missouri neighborhoods.

These not-for-profit organizations, which focus on revitalizing neighborhoods and improving communi-



Gov. Bob Holden and Kansas City Mayor Kay Barnes present a certificate to a representative from Cabot Westside Clinic during a ceremony at the Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center. Holden was there to announce Kansas-City area 2003 NAP tax credit.

ties, will receive state tax credits through the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) administered by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED). The program aims to assist not-for-profit organizations raise private-sector funds by providing partial state tax credits to businesses that make contributions to approved community improvement projects.

Not-for-profit organizations participating in the NAP program provide services to help individuals in their community with crime prevention; education, job training, and physical revitalization; or provides community services such as

counseling, day care, senior citizen centers, recreation, food, and transportation.

Businesses can donate cash; materials, supplies or equipment; technical assistance and professional services; labor; real estate; or stocks and bonds.

These organizations will receive tax credits that will leverage approximately \$30 million in private contributions. Credits can equal up to 50 percent of the total amount contributed, or up to 70 percent for projects located in most rural areas. Since Missouri enacted NAP, more than 4,000 organizations in more than 270 cities have benefited. During that time, over 40,000 donors have contributed in excess of \$220 million to projects administered by those groups.

For a complete list of tax credit recipients, go to www.ded.state.mo.us/communities/communitydevelopment/nap/ and click on the “FY2003 NAP Approved Projects” icon.



Holden releases state funds to aid rural housing developments

Gov. Bob Holden released more than \$550,000 in grants that will help fund new affordable housing units for low- to moderate-income families in four rural Missouri communi-



The rural affordable housing development grants were made through the Department of Economic Development’s (DED) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and will fund the construction of the housing developments.

Rural affordable housing grants were awarded to the following four Missouri cities:

Jackson	Jackson Senior Center	\$200,000
Lamar	Divine Estates	\$132,500
Willard	Fox Creek subdivision	\$125,000
Windsor	Windsor Senior Apts.	\$128,000

These projects, as well as several others, will also be considered for additional funding from federal and state housing subsidies through the Missouri Housing Development Commission (MHDC). Funds will be released to these cities as certain requirements set forth by the CDBG program are met, including a successful application for MHDC’s Low Income Housing Tax Credits.

NEWS BRIEFS

State loan helps Grundy Co. business expand

The Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) awarded a \$50,000 Action Fund Loan to Grundy County through the Community Development Block Grant program in September. The funds will be used to provide working capital for Roy Enterprises LLC, a start-up business in Grundy County. As a result, the business will create two new jobs and about \$125,000 in capital investment.

“Roy Enterprises manufactures and sells the “Tree Trainer,” a self-supporting tree brace designed to straighten crooked trees. Originally, the product was intended for personal use, but is now marketed to tree growers, landscape businesses and individuals. A patent application is pending on the product.

Boat manufacturer docks in Franklin Co.

In October, the Missouri Department of Economic Development approved up to \$200,000 in Development Tax Credits, as requested by Sheltered Workshops Inc. to facilitate the location of a boat manufacturer in Franklin County.

Marine Holdings, Inc. has announced plans to locate operations in Washington, creating about 40 new jobs and \$728,000 in private investment. The company will be consolidating its manufacturing facilities in Illinois and Florida to a facility located at 300 Westlink Dr.

The tax credits will help offset a \$400,000 donation made to the Sheltered Workshops by Marine Holdings. The donation was made in the form of equipment, which will be leased back to Marine Holdings. The company is also eligible for Missouri business facility tax credits.

Marine Holdings manufactures and distributes high-speed, advanced racing boats. Also known as Challenger Offshore, the company began operations in the early 1980s.

State aids American Beverage Company bottling facility move to downtown St. Louis

In September, American Beverage Company announced plans to acquire an existing facility in downtown St. Louis, retaining an expected 125 jobs and creating about \$3.5 million in private investment over the next two years.

The Missouri Department of Economic Development approved up to \$390,000 in Development Tax Credits for \$780,000 in donations made to the St. Louis Local Development Corporation (SLLDC) to assist with the project. The corporation applied for the development tax credits to help offset the cost of purchasing machinery that will be leased to American Beverage Company. The company is also eligible for Missouri Enterprise Zone Tax Credits.

American Beverage Co. is moving its bottling facility to the building located at 4022 W. Pine in St. Louis, formerly the site of Beverage Concepts.

Magic Green Corp. expands in Pike County

The Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED) awarded a \$250,000 Action Fund Loan through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to Pike County in September. County officials applied for the loan on behalf of Magic Green Corporation. The company will create 10 new jobs and make a \$1.6 million capital investment to open a manufacturing plant in the community of Louisiana.

The Action Fund Loan will help pay for the machinery and equipment needed for the new plant. Magic Green has an existing facility in Silex, Missouri. The new plant in Louisiana represents an expansion. The new plant will be located adjacent to Highway 79 and will be in close proximity to barge and rail loading facilities.

Magic Green develops, produces and markets fertilizers geared toward the agricultural and golfing industries. The company is also develop-

ing products to serve the athletic turf, lawn, landscaping and horticultural industries.

Wellston begins construction of small incubator in light industrial corridor

In October, Governor Bob Holden announced more than \$1.9 million in state tax credits to aid in economic revitalization efforts in the city of Wellston.

The Governor joined St. Louis County Executive Buzz Westfall, Wellston Mayor James Harvey and St. Louis County Economic Council President and CEO Denny Coleman at a groundbreaking ceremony for the Wellston Enterprise Center at 6439 Plymouth Ave.

The facility will house a small business incubator with the capacity to support 20 individual entrepreneurs or small businesses at any one time. A business incubator provides a protective environment for small businesses, giving them access on site to business services and equipment. Businesses will be allowed to reside in the incubator for up to four years.

The Missouri Department of Economic Development has approved up to \$900,000 in remediation tax credits and \$100,000 in Small Business Incubator Tax Credits to facilitate the development of the small business incubator.

At the event, Gov. Holden announced up to \$1,945,200 in Brownfield remediation tax credits to the St. Louis County Economic Council to help offset remediation of the former ABEX Foundry site at 6600 Ridge Ave. and 6538 Hobart St. for the development of the 24-acre Wellston Industrial Park.

These projects are a part of an ongoing joint economic revitalization effort between Wellston and St. Louis County. The Wellston Industrial Park will complete the light industrial corridor, connecting Federal Mogul with the ongoing development of another existing state Brownfield project, the Cornerstone Industrial Park area south of Page Ave., and the existing manufacturing community south of Plymouth.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Governor Stresses Importance of Developing Missouri's Workforce

“A well trained, well-educated workforce has never been more important than it is today. Without a doubt, human capital is the greatest economic development tool we have in Missouri,” said Holden. “We must make workforce development our number one priority.”

At the 20th annual Governor's Conference on Workforce Development, Governor Bob Holden declared that Missouri must make development of its workforce a top priority to ensure the state is poised to attract high paying jobs that will stimulate economic growth. That emphasis must be both on enhancing skills of the current workforce and on preparing our future workforce.

“A well trained, well-educated workforce has never been more important than it is today. Without a doubt, human capital is the greatest economic development tool we have in Missouri,” said Holden. “We must make workforce development our number one priority.”

Holden pointed out that technology allows many companies to do business from anywhere, which has changed the dynamics of economic development and placed increased importance on highly skilled workers.

“In order to meet the needs of our workers and help our businesses remain competitive in a global, high tech economy, we must change the current workforce development environment.” said Holden. We can no longer be satisfied with any kind of job; we want to create high wage jobs that will boost our economy. As Governor, I want to attract and retain companies that will create better quality, higher paying jobs for Missourians.”

The Governor called for increasing the emphasis on public-private partnerships, adapting educational institutions to meet the evolving needs of Missouri's local and regional economies, re-train the state's workforce to prepare them to work in knowledge-based industries, and using e-government to implement innovative ways of doing business more efficiently and effectively.

Missouri's target industries are life sciences, information technology and advanced manufacturing, which are all capable of producing high paying jobs.

Holden said strong partnerships are the key to helping Missourians find quality jobs as quickly as possible and to help businesses maintain a competitive workforce.

The conference was attended by staff from the Division of Workforce Development and staff from partner agencies, members of Workforce Investment boards, and representatives from business, education, local governments, and labor.

Outstanding efforts recognized

At the Governor's Conference on Workforce Development, Gov. Holden presented 14 individuals with “alumni awards” for their efforts in completing job training and finding gainful employment.

Alumni award winners were selected from each of the state's 14 workforce development regions.

Holden commended all award winners for their hard work and determination in overcoming their obstacles and bettering themselves. He said the Alumni of the Year Awards are testaments to the quality of Missouri's programs, the quality of staff in the Division of Workforce Development, and the strong partnerships the state has with public and private sector groups.

Five organizations and individuals were honored for their outstanding efforts in workforce development at the Workforce Development Conference.

2002 Achievement Award Winners

Customer Focus and Satisfaction

Rita Wallinga, Maryville

Leadership

Wayne Voltmer, Holt County

Private Sector

Nestle Purina Pet Care/Friskies, St. Joseph

Innovation

Y-Line “Youth-to-Youth”, Springfield

Collaboration and Integration

Work Incentive Initiative Consortium, Kansas City



DWD Director Rick Beasley welcomes conference goers to the Alumni Awards Presentation as DED Director Joe Driskill, Governor Holden and MTEC Chairman Patti Penny (front row, left to right) and 2002 alumni (back row) look on.

2002 Alumni Award Winners

Gayla McGinnis of Lebanon
Larry Fuqua of Kansas City
Christina Bowe of Crystal City
Lisa Eisenhower of Excelsior Springs
Tiffany Rollison of Bevier (Macon County)
Gary Tantlinger of St. Joseph
Karen Glenn of Fordland (Webster County)
Susan Mann of Ellington (Reynolds County)
Tasha Lucas of Cape Girardeau
Tabitha Messbarger of Joplin
Jamie Keller of Kirkwood
Davis Moore of St. Louis
Karen Freund of St. Louis
Bobbie Moulder of Clinton



Conference participants enjoy opportunities to network.

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